

## Wine and Cheese Reception Benefit

The Monroe County Historical society invites you to a wine and cheese reception to kick off the holiday season at the Historic Salt Sulphur Hotel, featuring Doc Greenberg's patient Jazz Band, Sunday, November 9, 2014 from 2:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M. Enjoy great music, and good friends while helping the MCHS accomplish even more in 2015.

Please make your reservations by Saturday, October 25th. If you do not receive an invitation by Oct. 15th, or if you have any other questions, please call Ana Lusk at 304-772-5411.

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## Christmas Gifts

Give Monroe County for Christmas this year! The MCHS is offering the beautiful new book "Carriages of Monroe County", the gorgeous DVD "a Place Called Monroe" and our new MCHS Carriage House t-shirts. All are available at our museums and Carriage House and will also be available at our Wine & Cheese Reception at the Salt Sulphur Hotel Sunday, November 9th. All proceeds from these sales go to the MCHS to fund our on-going efforts to protect the priceless history of Monroe County.

## Carriage House Opening

The Carriage House was officially opened on August 30, 2014 with brief speeches by President Mark Taylor, Project Chairman Fred Ziegler, Mayor Caroline Sparks, and the honorable Mary Pearl Compton. About 100 people attended the opening. Mark gave a review of the project and Fred thanked builder/designer Chip Sills, the Town of Union, the County Commission, and the numerous volunteers, businesses and contributors for their support. Mayor Caroline proclaimed that August 30th would henceforward be known as "Carriage House Day" in Union and Mary Pearl dedicated the building to Fred Ziegler.

We did achieve our goal of filling the Carriage House with seven horse-drawn vehicles, three of which were received as donations in the last year. This collection is representative, we believe, of the carriages and wagons one would have been encountered on the roadways and farms of the late 19th Century. Also about 50 vehicle-related objects have been donated and they range from pictures and models, to tools and machinery. These are being cleaned and prepared for exhibit in the coming year.

There is plenty left to be done on the Carriage House Project. We still have to install electrical service and fixtures to the building and the landscaping has yet to be done. Paving the parking lot would be desirable as well as establishing a walkway from the Main Street where our other Museums are located. The bricks for the porch have now been delivered and the engraving process will begin soon. Our goal is to have the Carriage House Museum fully functional by Farmer's Day in early June when we reopen. Much of this will require money and so we are encouraging further donations, including carriage-related objects for the museum.

The MCHS museums and Carriages House are open through the month of October for the first time. Now visitors coming to enjoy the fall foliage of Monroe County can visit our museums and Carriage House to enjoy and learn about Monroe County's history. A BIG thank you to all our museum volunteers who made this possible.

